Female is Impregnated; and the ſame may be applied to other Creatures. Theſe are all the Obſervations I ſhall trouble you with at preſent, and remain,

Sir,

Yours to ſerve you,

Anthony van Leeuwenhock.

III. *A Letter from Mr* Ralph Thoresby, *F. R. S. to Dr.* Hans Sloane, *R. S. Secr. Giving an Account of a Lunar Rain-Bow ſeen in* Darbyſhire, *and of a Storm of Thunder and Lightning which happened near* Leedes *in* Yorkſhire.

Honoured Sir,

THE *Iris Lunaris* being ſo rarely ſeen, that the Ingenious Dr *Plott* tells us (Nat Hiſt. of Oxf. cap. 1. §. 7.) that ſeveral Learned and Obſerving Men never ſaw one in their Lives, and that even *Ariſtotle* himſelf obſerv'd but two in above 50 Years; the enſuing Account, which I had from a Gentleman of great Veracity and Ingenuity, will be the more acceptable. He is now in this Town, but was lately in *Darbyſhire*, where, upon *Chriſtmas* laſt, he was at *Glapwell Hall*; and walking towards *Patterton-Green*, about Eight in the Evening, he obſerv'd with great Satisfaction the Bow, which the Moon had fixed in the Clouds: She had then paſs'd her Full about 24 Hours; the Evening had been

been rainy, but the Clouds were diſpers'd, and the Moon ſhin'd pretty clear. This *Iris* was more remarkable than that which Dr. *Plot* obſerv'd at *Oxford*, the 23d of *November* 1675. that being only of a white Colour, but this had all the Colours of the *Iris Solaris*, exceeding pleaſant, diſtinct, and grateful to look upon; only faint, comparatively to thoſe we ſee in the Day; as muſt neceſſarily follow, both from the different Beams that cauſe it, and the diſpoſition of the Medium. What puzled him the moſt, he ſaid, was the largeneſs of the Arc, which was not ſo much leſs than that of the Sun, as the different Dimenſions of their Bodies, and their reſpective diſtances from the Earth, ſeem to require: But as to its entireneſs, and beauty of its Colour, it was admirable and ſurprizing. It continued about ten Minutes, before the Interpoſition of a Cloud hindred his further Obſervation. This from my *Darbyſhire* Friend.

The beginning of the ſame Month had been remarkable here in *Yorkſhire*, for ſuch Thunder and *Lightnings*, as are not common here at that time of the year; particularly the Evening of the 5th Day, and the Morning of that Day Sevennight; when *John Sainor* of *Bramham*, Gardner, and two Women, deſigning early for this Market, were ſo furiouſly encountred, that the Females took up at the firſt Houſe they came at; but he proceeded on his Journey, tho' the Lightning was ſo ſevere, as he was riding over *Bramham*-Moor, that he thought his Hair had been burnt, and Face ſcorch'd, at one Flaſh; which being more ſevere than the reſt, did actually ſet on Fire the Stick he had in his Hand, as he was ready to depoſe upon Oath before *John Dodgſon* Eſq; Mayor of *Leedes*, who preſented me with the ſaid Hazel Rod which the Gardner had given him: It yet retains part of the blackneſs, tho' the Man had beat off much of the end of the Rod (little minding it

as a Curioſity) by forcing the Horſe forward, to get the ſooner out of the fiery Incaleſcence. I am,

Sir,

Leedes, Jan. 20. 1710-11.

Your moſt humble Servant,

RALPH THORESBY.

IV. *Another Letter from Mr.* Ralph Thoresby, *F. R. S. to Dr.* Hans Sloane, *R. S. Secr. Giving an Account of a* Meteor, *which was ſeen in* Yorkſhire, *and other Neighbouring Countries, upon* May 18. 1710.

Honoured Sir,

YOU would think me remiſs, if you ſhould hear from any other hand, that a flaming Sword (as twas call'd) was brandiſh'd over this Town on *Holy Thurſday* laſt (one of the ꝥarꝥ-ꝺaꝝaꝛ or *Ambarvalia*, when the Inhabitants had been perambulating a neighbouring Mannor;) and yet I thought it not worth your Notice, looking upon it only as a hot, and dry, ſulphurous Exhalation, the natural effect of ſo great a drought: But having ſince been with ſome who ſaw it, not only in the neighbouring Towns, but a great way North, as others did above 50 Miles South of this place, I think it not amiſs to acquaint you therewith, and to enquire whether any ſuch Meteor was in your Parts. It appeared here at a quarter paſt Ten at Night, and took

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